

REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 9, 10 and 21 are pending. Reconsideration and allowance based on the below comments are respectfully requested. The Office Action rejects claims 1-7, 9, 10 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Malmquist (U.S. Patent No. 4,803,306). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Malmquist teaches an electromagnetic shielding clip 10. The clip can be attached to the conductive or non-conductive panel by a U-shaped attaching portion 12. The U-shape attaching portion includes notches 18 that taper and ledges 20 located on top of the notches. The U-shaped attaching portion is positioned in a hole of the panel and the notch, ledge combination secures the U-shaped attaching portion, and thus the clip to the panel.

In contrast, in embodiments of the present invention, the connection points of the metal foil and metal plate are attached by an arrangement in which a protrusion at the edge of the metal foil is created in such a manner to fit within a hole formed on the edge of the metal plate. See page 16, lines 23-25 to page 17, lines 1-5. An illustration of such an arrangement is shown in Fig. 3. Also, in embodiments of the invention along with the connection of the metal foil and metal plate as dictated above, a metal screw 80 is used to fasten the metal foil and the plate more securely to each other at the connection points. An illustration of this arrangement is shown on Fig. 4.

The Office Action alleges that the curved portions 50 illustrated in Fig. 10 of Malmquist teach applicants' claimed protrusion. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Applicants claims 1 and 5 each recite a metal foil and a metal plate that are connected to each other. In applicants' claimed invention, at the connection points only a single metal foil and a single metal plate are necessary to form an attachment based on the protrusion and the hole formed at the edges of the metal foil and metal plate respectively.

In the embodiments disclosed by Fig. 10 of Malmquist, it is necessary that at least two (2) conductor panels be used to secure the clip with the curved portions to the conductive plates. As illustrated in Fig. 10, the U-shaped attaching portions attaches the clip to the conductive panel 30. The curved portions 50 on either end of the clip attach the clip to conductive panels 33 and 35, respectively. It is the U-shaped attaching portion that creates the attachment force to the main conductive panel 30. The curved portions are supported by the U-shaped attaching portion. As disclosed at column 4, lines 16-19, the clip shown in Fig. 10 using the curved portion provides contact between three (3) conductive panels. Even if one of the curved portions is not used, at least two (2) conductive panels are connected by the combination of the U-shaped attaching portion and the second curved portion. Thus, Malmquist does not teach utilizing a metal plate and a metal foil as claimed.

Further, nowhere does Malmquist teach using the edge of the clip and conductive plate for providing the claim protrusion and hole. Although Malmquist illustrates curved portions 50 at the edges of the clip, these curved portions are positioned in gaps between conductive plates and not in holes at the edges of a conductive plate. The curved portions connect separate conductive plates to each other.

Also, the Office Action alleges that the attaching portion 12 of Malmquist is "equivalent to a screw". Applicants respectfully disagree.

As described at column 2, lines 48-67 to column 3, lines 1-13, the U-shaped attaching portion of clip 10, includes notches 18 and ledges 20 on top of the notches. The notches are tapered which allow the notches to be positioned into a hole so that the ledge can abut against the surface of the panel attaching the clip to the panel. One of ordinary skill would not recognize the U-shaped attaching portion as a screw. In fact, any person who has ever seen a screw would not equate the U-shaped attaching portion to a screw. A screw, as defined by Webster's dictionary, is a piece resembling a nail with a helical or spiral grove and slotted head that can be turned by a screwdriver to fasten things together. The U-shaped attaching portion which includes tapered notches and ledges, does not fit into this definition.

Thus, Malmquist does not teach using a screw such that said metal foil and said metal plate are fastened to each other with screw so that said protrusion is toward said metal plate, as recited in claim 5.

Malmquist fails to anticipate applicants' claimed invention. Specifically, Malmquist fails to teach, *inter alia*, a metal foil and a metal plate that are connected to each other, wherein at a connecting portion of said metal foil and said metal plate, a protrusion, formed by the forming said metal foil along an edge of said metal foil, is fitted into a hole formed along an edge of said metal plate, as recited in claim 1.

Further, Malmquist fails to teach, *inter alia*, an metal foil and a metal plate that are connected to each other, wherein at a connecting portion of said metal foil and said metal plate, a protrusion, formed by deforming said foil, is formed on said metal foil, and at a position apart from said protrusion and said connecting portion, said metal flow and said metal plate are fastened to each other with a screw so that said protrusion is toward said metal plate, as recited in claim 5.

In view of the above, applicants respectfully submit that Malmquist fails to teach each and every feature of the claimed invention as required under a 35 U.S.C. §102 rejection. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Conclusion

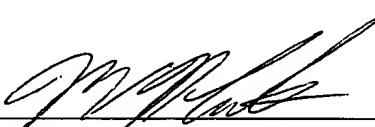
For at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-7, 9, 10 and 21 are distinguishable over the cited art. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Chad J. Billings (Reg. No. 48,917) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By 
Michael R. Cammarata, #39,491

MRC/CJB:cb
2257-0194P

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000

Attachment(s)